

----- ST REPORT INTERNATIONAL ONLINE MAGAZINE -----
"The Original 16/32bit Online Magazine"
from
STR Publishing Inc.
"

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> 04/12/91: STReportâ € #7.15 The Original 16/32 bit Online Magazine!

- The Editor's Desk - CPU REPORT - ATARI MATURES!
- NeXT - Overview - CDTV SHIPS! - GEIS & IBM Link
- CALAMUS SL - IMAGE SPEEDER - RETOUCHE
- Ultre*Setter - PORTFOLIO NEWS - SHERLOOK!

* CEPS 1991 EYEWITNESS REPORTS! *
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> The Editor's Podium

I am back, safely, from CEPS and would you believe I have caught a good, old fashioned, Chicago head cold? Its a dilly. Oh well, the CEPS show was "enlightening" to say the least.... The powerhouse programs that were on display were fabulous. Of course, seeing Atari in such "good company" was a neat and invigorating sight. But when you're standing around listening to the comments that passed between the Apple and MS-Dos folks it became increasingly more difficult with each minute passing by to keep a straight face. One of the most common remarks heard was; "Gee I thought Atari was outta business!" then .. in the very next breath you'd hear; "This stuff is superb why is it being kept a secret?" I'd love a nickel for everytime I heard either of the two remarks, my next Comdex trip would be paid for.

Getting serious for a moment, Atari's display area was busy all the time, since this was a specialty show aimed at Corporate America, (CEPS-Corporate Electronic Printing Show), there were no crowds of curious users just very serious folks trying to find the very best in Desktop Publishing Solutions for their company or employers. The Matrix boards and TT030 were the "HIT" of the show, let me tell you this, there was a Mitsubishi 24" color monitor with a fantastic picture of gleaming motorcycles that literally "blew your socks off!" Yes, that's right! And it was being driven by a Matrixed TT030. It was very impressive. From the attitudes and inquiries of the folks at that display, they too felt it was noteworthy as many made it their business to remain after the presentation to obtain further info.

Elsewhere in this issue are excellent descriptions and accounts of the show, but I had to put my 43 cents worth in. A final observation would be to illustrate; "the Atari computer is growing up". The TT030 represented itself very well. The software on display, coupled with the new and very exciting third party hardware kept everyone's interest levels high. It would be unfair to compare any of the software being displayed to what we are now using, but believe me in the DTP arena, the existing software in use for graphical, text and document manipulation is most certainly surpassed by huge leaps and bounds. One item everyone will pay attention to is the price tags of this new hardware and software, being truly sophisticated it carries the expected pricey tags. But then, not fall into the "you get what you pay for" trap, it must be understood the days of the \$49.95 program are as dead as the echo of 1985's applause for the original 520. These programs and hardware goodies were not and are not part of the basic, entry level genre, they are strictly tomorrow's technology today.

In my humble opinion, the presentation put on by Atari at CEPS was far better than any I have been witness to. Comdex included. This show allowed Atari to "rub elbows with the big boys" and actually outshine them in many areas. It felt great to walk around listening to the amazement, "oohs and aahs" when the attendees saw the TT030 and these superb software and hardware packages perform. This issue covers those fine third party products and for the next few weeks each of the products will have more coverage as we receive the additional materials requested about them. I gotta say it again.... The Atari TT030 has indeed opened the new era of Atari. Fellow Atarians, we "SHINED" at CEPS. <<<grin>>>

Still quite tired, but thankful to have seen CEPS with Atari there!

Ralph.....

TODAY'S NEWS ..TODAY!

> STReport's Staff The regulars and this week's contributors!
=====

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

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Please, submit letters to the editor, articles, reviews, etc...
via E-Mail to:

Compuserve..... 70007,4454
Genie..... ST.REPORT
Delphi..... RMARIANO
BIX..... RMARIANO
FIDONET..... 112/35
FNET..... NODE 350
NEST..... 90:19/350.0

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WHAT'S NEW IN THE ATARI FORUMS (April 12)

NEW UPLOADS POLICY CHANGE

Effective immediately, the sysops will adopt the following policy for new uploads to the Atari ST and 8-Bit Forums:

All new uploads will be placed ONLY in the NEW UPLOADS LIBRARY for a period of 2-3 weeks. After this time, they will be MOVED to the appropriate long term library and deleted from LIB-1.

The old policy was to immediately place 2 copies of new files online. One in the NEW UPLOADS LIB and another in the long-term lib, giving users the option to download from either location. This old policy was wasteful of storage and confusing to some members who downloaded both copies thinking they were different versions.

We realize that this will require everyone to scan the NEW UPLOADS LIB in addition to the other LIBs when searching for a specific type of file, but this is a temporary problem that will be eliminated when future versions of the CIS software will allow members to scan all files in all LIBs from a single point (a feature that is on the "enhancement" list).

ARCSHELL 2.4

Charles F. Johnson and Little Green Footballs Software bring you ArcShell 2.4, the latest version of this fine program. This version provides a link to MaxiFile by allowing you to call up MaxiFile from ArcShell's main screen. See ARCS24.ARC in Library 1 of the Atari Productivity Forum (GO ATARIPRO).

NEW FROM DOUBLECLICK SOFTWARE

DC Right DC is another PROGRAM OF THE WEEK by Double Click Software. With DC Right DC installed, a QUICK right mouse button click will emulate a LEFT double click. See DCRTDC.ARC in Library 13 of the Atari Vendors Forum (GO ATARIVEN).

ATARI USERS GROUP LISTING

Modems are nice, but nothing beats getting together realtime with hometown folks who share your interest! The 1991 list of Registered Atari User Groups is now available in file USERGP.ARC, LIBRARY 1 of the Atari 8-Bit Forum (GO ATARI8).

GOLDEN OLDIE FOR ATARI ST

DOTS AND DASHES - This classy connect-the-dots strategy game runs in both color and monochrome. Match wits with the computer or up to three humans. Play on one computer or compete by way of modem and a phone hookup. Start with dots only or with some dashes in place. To introduce an element of luck, make beginning dashes invisible. Fun for all ages and IQs. Built-in, printable instructions. Available in LIBRARY 2 of the Atari Arts Forum (GO ATARIARTS) as DOTDAS.PRG.

ATARI PORTFOLIO FORUM NEWS

Don't miss Walter Daniel's FORUM NOTES files (PORTFOLIO NEWS-STReport) in LIBRARY 1 of the Atari Portfolio Forum (GO APORTFOLIO) for news on the latest happenings and events in our online community.

NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE

> CPU REPORT

Issue #106

by Michael Arthur

CPU INSIGHTS

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NEXT COMPUTERS, SPREADSHEETS, AND STEVE JOBS' NEXT ATTEMPT

When Steve Jobs introduced the first NeXT Workstation in 1988, it was praised as a revolutionary advance in desktop computing. Some of the computer industry's new trends, from removable disk cartridges to Unix-based Graphical User Interfaces, gained significant "media attention" from it. However, acceptance of the NeXT was slowed by complaints about its speed and lack of Third-Party support. This, along with Steve Jobs' own "crusade" to sell the NeXT mainly to universities, kept the NeXT Computer itself from becoming popular.

Recently, NeXT Inc. began shipping its NeXTStation line of computers in an attempt to rectify its earlier mistakes. To gain industry support, NeXT's new workstations are targeted at the business market. Addressing complaints about its speed, the new NeXTs use a 25 MHZ 68040 chip (with a built-in floating point math unit) that is 3-7 times faster than its old 68030 chip. To end the controversy surrounding its reliance on Optical Cartridges, the NeXTstation Line uses an internal 2.88 Megabyte Floppy Disk Drive and a built-in 105 Meg Hard Drive. Also, to shore up one of the NeXT's greatest weaknesses, the NeXTstation line supports color graphics. The result: NeXT Inc., which only sold 8000 of its old NeXT

Computer, has already gotten over 17,000 signed orders for its new systems.

NeXT's new workstation line consists of NeXTstations, and NeXTCubes. The NeXTstation has a slim "pizza-box" shape, meant for use as a desktop PC, while the NeXTcube is a traditional "12-inch cube", being marketed as a network server. Here is more information on NeXT's new systems:

1) NeXTstation Monochrome System: This has 8 Megs of RAM, and comes with a 1120*832 monochrome resolution. Cost: \$5000.00.

2) NeXTcube Monochrome System: Like the original NeXT Computer, this computer has four NuBus Slots and 8 Megs of RAM. It also has a monochrome 1120*832 resolution. Cost: \$8000.00.

3) NeXTstation Color System: This version of the NeXTstation has 8 megs of RAM, and can display 4096 colors out of a 16-bit (or 65,536 color) palette. It also has a 1120*832 resolution. Cost: \$8000.00.

4) NeXTcube Color System: This version of the NeXTcube has 8 Megs of RAM, can display 4096 colors out of a 16-bit color palette, and has a 1120*832 resolution. Cost: \$10,000.00.

5) NeXTcube Plug-in Motherboard: Like the original NeXT Computer, the NeXTcube's motherboard is actually a NuBus Expansion card. As such, NeXT Inc. is selling the NeXTcube's motherboard to owners of the original NeXT Computer, as an upgrade. Cost: \$2000.00

Along with its new computers, NeXT Inc. has introduced Version 2.0 of its NeXTStep Operating system. Along with support for its systems' new features, NeXTStep now comes with a version of Display Postscript that can display color and monochrome graphics. Display Postscript is a device-independent imaging model that displays documents and text in a WYSIWYG fashion.

Many of the supporters of the old NeXT Computer wanted it to support 24-bit color. In response, NeXT Inc. is selling the NeXTdimension color board for the new systems. The NeXTdimension board can display 16 million colors simultaneously at a 1120*832 resolution, using Intel's 80860 RISC chip as a graphics coprocessor, in order to provide a quick display. It also has video-capture capabilities. Cost: \$3000.00.

The NeXTdimension board also features real-time image compression, using the CL550 chip, developed by C-Cube Microsystems. The CL550 chip is the first VLSI chip implementation of the JPEG image compression standard. Developed by the ISO and CCITT International standards organizations, the JPEG standard allows graphics images to be compressed up to 1/100th of their normal size. The CL550 can compress still color images in real-time (at a rate of 30 frames per second), for "full-motion" animations. "True-color" animations (or those using 24-bit color graphics to display up to 16 million colors simultaneously) have previously been very difficult for computers, since such files can easily take up over several hundred megabytes (if not several gigabytes) of disk space. With the NeXTdimension board, one would be able to store a realistic, "full-motion" color animation that ordinarily took up 1 gigabyte of disk space on a 20 Megabyte hard disk.

With the introduction of the NeXTstation systems, NeXT Inc. hoped to eliminate the reasons that its original NeXT Computer had fared poorly in

the computer industry. While the NeXTstation addressed the flaws in the NeXT Computer's hardware, it had to have much more support from Software Developers than the old NeXT Computer. Now, several software companies have introduced products for the NeXTstation line, including:

1) Ashton Tate, who has introduced a spreadsheet package called PowerStep. Designed using NeXT's Interface Builder utility, Powerstep features:

- A 16,384 X 16,384 cell matrix, for the largest of spreadsheet needs. One can install financial, math, and string functions into each cell. It also can read/write Lotus 1-2-3 spreadsheet files.
- Presentation Graphics features, allowing users to place charts, text, and graphics on a page that has spreadsheet data. PowerStep also uses NeXTstep's support for "voice annotation", allowing users to insert voice messages into a spreadsheet.
- PowerStep automatically updates all graphs and charts as spreadsheet data changes. Also, several spreadsheets can easily be merged (or consolidated) into one.
- Over 13 types of graphs and charts, including pie, bar, line, scatter, and 3D-surface graphs. PowerStep users can also adjust the rotation, elevation, and perspective of 3D graphs as they are found onscreen.

Ashton-Tate has also built a macro language, called WILMA, into PowerStep. WILMA macros can be called from spreadsheet cells, and can be used by software developers to develop modules for Powerstep. Currently, Ashton-Tate is also reportedly porting dBASE IV to the NeXT Computer....

2) Lotus Inc., who is shipping yet another spreadsheet for the NeXTstation, called Lotus Improv. The result of three years of research, Lotus Improv can import/export spreadsheet files made with Lotus 1-2-3 Release 3.0. It has an online, context-sensitive Help System that is arranged with a table of contents and an index, allowing users to look up the program's features through a resizable window.

Like PowerStep, Lotus Improv allows users to create presentations using spreadsheet data and text/graphics/sound elements, and has dynamic "live links" between its 3D graphs and spreadsheet data. One can also control the perspective and view of 3D bar/stack/area graphs, but Improv also has built-in graphics utilities, allowing one to create pictures for a presentation.

Improv also introduces a new concept called "Dynaview", which incorporates many aspects of financial modeling into a spreadsheet program. Spreadsheet cells and formulas can be expressed using plain English phrases, instead of numbers and letters. For example, a formula to calculate a company's Total Revenue could be expressed by typing, "(Price * Quantity Sold)", instead of (A1 * B1). In this way, the structure/logic of a spreadsheet can be understood much more easily.

Dynaview can compare relationships between two sets of information without having to recalculate or re-enter any data, macros, or formulas. In addition, Improv allows users to display different views of a spreadsheet by manipulating icons. For example, one could first view company advertising expenses by clicking on an icon, and quickly switch to viewing

the company's payroll via another icon. Improv formulas can also be debugged more easily than with other spreadsheets, and can be made to apply to all spreadsheet cells that need the formula. This allows Improv spreadsheets to use far less formulas than regular spreadsheets, and for those formulas to be reused more quickly.

Lotus says that DynaView could be useful in areas like market analysis or sales forecasting, and claims that Improv is a revolution in spreadsheet technology. Improv is now shipping, priced at \$700.00.

WordPerfect Inc. has announced that Version 5.0 of WordPerfect will be available for the NeXTstation during the first part of 1991. Using the NextStep user interface, it (unlike WP 5.0 for DOS) will be able to display documents in a WYSIWYG fashion, and will allow picture images on a document to be easily scaled, rotated, or moved.

> CPU STATUS REPORT
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LATE BREAKING INDUSTRY-WIDE NEWS

Issue #16

Compiled by: Lloyd E. Pulley, Sr.

- New York, New York

COMMODORE ANNOUNCES U.S. SHIPMENTS OF
CDTV

Commodore will begin shipping its home multimedia computer (CDTV) April 19th. The CDTV unit looks like an audio compact disk player and connects to a television set and home audio system. However, it has the processing power of an Amiga computer, and can be upgraded with a full keyboard, mouse, trackball, and disk drives. Fifty CDTV software titles will be available within a couple weeks of its introduction with close to 100 due by late summer.

The first shipments will be to Chicago, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Francisco, and San Jose, with shipments to New York, Boston, Atlanta, Minneapolis, Dallas, and Denver in May. Commodore expects the product to be available across the country by September. The suggested retail price will be \$999 and will be available at Macy's in California and at Soft-ware Etc., Walden Soft, Future Tronics and Montgomery Ward Electric Avenue in Chicago.

- New York, New York

"PHIBER OPTIK" PLEADS GUILTY

Mark Abene, 19, known in the hacker community as "Phiber Optik", has plead guilty to the reduced charge of "unauthorized use of a computer" and was sentenced to 35 hours of community services.

Abene, who had computer equipment and notes seized during the execution of a search warrant on January 24th, 1990, was arrested on February 5th, 1991 and charged with felony counts of computer tampering and computer trespass and a misdemeanor count of theft of services, plans to donate time at a local hospital to fulfill the community service requirement.

- White Plains, New York

GEIS AND IBM LINK ELECTRONIC MAIL

The IBM Information Network and GE Information Services (GEIS), two of the largest commercial value-added data networks offering the ability to send messages and data worldwide, have announced a linkup. This link, will allow customers of both services to exchange electronic messages. The link covers messages between the IBM Information Network's IBM Mail Press Exchange as well as the GE's QUIK-COMM and GENie systems

- Sydney, Austrailia

COLOR "BIG BLUE" RED

In the most recent IBM quarterly review from Australia, the lead article profiled Big Blue's cooperation with one of Australia's leading banks - ANZ. The bank's chief, Brian Weeks, was interviewed, and talked of his bank's very large dealings with IBM, including the ground-breaking installation of the IBM 600J six-processor system. The article had a nice color picture of Brian Weeks in his crisp, efficient office, complete with oil painting on the wall and Apple Macintosh on the desk. And if that weren't bad enough, the IBM buyer is posing with his Macintosh mouse in hand.

- Tokyo, Japan

COMPUTER VIRUS INVADES JAPAN LHARC
FILES

The "winner-B" type PC virus has infected Japan's major personal computer network NIFTY-Serve. The virus, which has been widely published and whose source code is widely available, was hidden in a data compression program called "LHarc" and was downloaded by 27 people before it was removed. So far, no "casualties" have been reported.

- Redmond, Washington

MICROSOFT JOINS AMERICA ONLINE

Quantum's America Online electronic service has been joined by Microsoft to offer the Microsoft Small Business Center. The new America Online service offers software templates and consulting services.

"With the Microsoft Small Business Center, business professionals can have immediate access to experts and other small business owners any time they need it, day or night," said Steve Case, president of Quantum. "And America Online's live electronic conferencing and electronic mail functions allow small and home-based business owners to build a

networking community where information can be shared."

The information contained in the Microsoft Small Business Center is free to subscribers of America Online, which charges \$9.95 per month and includes three hours of free time. Calls cost \$10 per hour during the day and \$5 per hour at night.

- Cupertino, California

APPLE REORGANIZES TO CAPTURE NEW MARKETS

In an attempt to capture new markets and speed up products for market, Apple Computer has reorganized its company into several new divisions. John Sculley, Apple's chief executive officer and chairman, will be acting head of the new Consumer division, in which the Macintosh Classic is assigned. Another new major division is the Enterprise division, which will focus on developing hardware and software for customers needing industry standards, larger networks, and multivendor connectivity, the company says.

- Dallas, Texas

TI TO TRY FOR CHEAP SOLAR ENERGY

In an attempt to develop a much needed low-cost, environmentally clean energy alternative, Texas Instruments (TI) and Southern California Edison (SCE) have announced a joint solar energy development project which will concentrate on the new "Solar Sphere" technology. If successful, this would make solar electricity as cheap as conventional utility company electricity.

The "Solar Sphere" technology is a new approach to converting sunlight into electricity involves less expensive, low-purity silicon and low-cost manufacturing equipment. Instead of using fragile and brittle conventional photo-voltaic cells, the new Solar Sphere technology uses cells with 17,000 tiny solar spheres on aluminum foil. Because each sphere is an independent, working cell, the impact of individual cell failure, compared to today's 100 square-centimeter single- and polycrystalline cells, is negligible.

- Washington, D.C.

TOP GAMES FOR FEBRUARY

Sierra On-Line's "King's Quest V" is still #1 on the MS-DOS games list with Maxis' "SimEarth" in second and "Red Baron", also from Sierra On-Line, slipping to third. These figures are based on sales figures supplied by the Software Publishers Association (SPA) for February.

In the video game category, first was Konami's "Teenage-Turtle", second was Acclaim's "The Simpsons" and "Super Mario Land" in third.

:HOW TO GET YOUR OWN GENIE ACCOUNT:

To sign up for GENie service: Call: (with modem) 800-638-8369.

Upon connection type HHH (RETURN after that).

Wait for the U#= prompt.

Type: XTX99587,CPUREPT then, hit RETURN.

**** SIGN UP FEE WAIVED ****

The system will now prompt you for your information.

-> NOW! GENIE STAR SERVICE IS IN EFFECT!! <-

> The Flip Side STR Feature "...a different viewpoint"
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A LITTLE OF THIS, A LITTLE OF THAT
=====

by Michael Lee

The re-printing of posts problem on Genie seems to have been resolved. According to the new rules, unless I get prior permission from the person who left the post and also notify the sysops, I cannot publish any edited posts from the ST Roundtable on Genie. However, I can re-print entire posts without getting written permission (except in certain cases). While these rules seem generally fair, they will limit the number of Genie ST Roundtable posts that I can print.

In general, there are three main reasons why I would edit a post:

1) To make it more readable and clearer. Many of the posts are difficult to read because of spelling, writing and grammatical errors. I attempt to clear up the most obvious errors in an effort to make the posts easier to read.

2) To keep the non-pertinent information to a minimum (called "signal-to-noise" in the BBS world). Sometimes there might be 10 lines of "Hello, how are you" type of comments before they ever get to the "meat" of the message. In my attempt to keep this column in the 10-13k range and to give you as much new information each week as possible, I edit

out most of the extraneous stuff.

3) When several posts give much of the same information. I'll edit out the duplicate information and leave the non-duplicate stuff.

So, the only posts that I will be able to use from the ST Roundtable on Genie will be ones that are fairly clear, concise and don't need editing. But don't despair, that just means that I'll have more room for the posts from Delphi and CIS.

A nice hint for all users from MAURICEM on Delphi...

...In my many years of beta-testing I've come to the conclusion NOT to blame a piece of software until you run it on a totally CLEAN system. It's when you start putting memory-resident [NOTE: auto programs and accessories] stuff in that things start to fall apart.

More from Joshua Mendolusky about the Reflex Graphic Card on CIS...

After calling Titan Designs Ltd. in England, they told me that currently it can be used in any Mega system without modification. When I called about two weeks ago, they said that 520/1040 compatibility was about 6 weeks away. I am supposed to be getting dealer information shortly, and when I do I will be calling them again to find out the status of the upgrade.

In reference to Multi-sync monitors, If you are using one in place of both your b/w and color monitors, I believe it will only work in the high resolution mode. It will also work with an 800 by 1280 page screen monitor, because the board has two ports of its own for use with that and a 21 inch CAD monitor (Hence the need for some form of upgrade on the 520s and 1040s, there's just no room in the back for the ports.)

JCQM (JOACQUIM Software and Peripherals)
(wa-KEEM)

Some questions about the Dream Park 1.44 meg floppy drives from Willie Pelzer on CIS...

....will it boot a 720k disk? What about 1.44? How do you format the floppies? If you format from the desktop, will it format 720k okay?

Answer from a Dream Park 1.44 meg owner, David Leon on CIS...

...the 1.44 will boot a 720k or a 1.44 disk just fine. It will also format a 720k disk just fine from the desktop. If you want to format a 1.44 disk or higher...you'll have to use the bundled software formatter (it's GEM operated and easy)...it works beautifully with all IBM software (I used it for Windows) and it works really nicely for regular old ST stuff (I've got PageStream with 30 fonts on one 1.77 disk!)

About the only complaint I've got is that it botches up GCR read/write under Spectre - the Spectre format is OK but GCR disks can't mount...the drive does require minor installation (addition of a HD port and replace of the disk drive controller chip) cost me

about \$30 to install.

From JB. Davis, (DreamPark), Category 4, Topic 53, Message 66 on the ST Roundtable on Genie...

Blowout of IB Drive cases!!!

We are blowing out all of our IB drive cases! We have a grundle of IB single height 5.25" cases complete with power supply. We are blowing these out for \$29.95!!!! These make great cases for 5.25" 360 or 1.2 meg drives, as well as 3.5" 720 or 1.44 meg drives with the use of an adapter. First come first serve!!!

If you want a drive installed, we will sell you a 5.25" 360K unit complete for \$119.95, or a 720k 3.5" unit for \$129.95.

Call us at:

DreamPark Development 1390 South 1100 East Suite 104 SLC, UT 84105

(801)484-9809 voice (801)466-2541 fax

From Ralph Mariano (ST Report) on Delphi...

I been using this Princeton Ultra-Sync for three years now with a modified monitor master and will plainly say that all three modes are as good as if not better than those of the SC1224 /SM124. Quality multirez monitors are not new but just being discovered. Anybody... Interested in multi-sync/multirez monitors, owes it to themselves to make it their business to try a Princeton Ultrasync.

From the Gadgets RT on Genie...

Question by John Townsend (Atari)...

Anyone know where I can get an Epson driver for use with Spectre? I am trying to use a Panasonic dot matrix printer....

Answer from Jeff.G....

...have you tried the PrintLink collection from GDT Softworks?

Answer from Diane Foley....

...you might try MacWarehouse at 800-255-6227

Answer from Rob Woodbridge....

...My favorite is Mac Connection, 800-800-2222. It's currently going for \$59. \$3 gets you overnight shipping, too!

There have been some reported problems with Spectre 3.0 and ICD's AdSpeed. The following are two (compiled) messages from STACE (Gadgets sysop) on what the problem exactly is, who's at fault and what to do about it. From the Gadgets RT on Genie...

...AdSpeed works fine with Spectre. However, due to the way SPECTRE

checks for the amount of available memory, a problem pops up on STs with less than 4 megs...This is a problem with SPECTRE, not with AdSpeed...AdSpeed, Spectre 3.0 and 2 meg ST get along JUST FINE if you boot Spectre with the AdSpeed cache turned OFF (8mhz mode). Then, after you enter Mac mode you can turn AdSpeed back to 16mhz and all is well. Of course, this makes a hardware switch very desirable.

How one ST user uses his system. From Ron Webber on Delphi...

...I use the PC at work and also use the ST at work to do editing of BASIC programs that will eventually end up on the PC. I use Easy-Draw to do illustrations for the manuals that go with the PC programs when we sell them (the manuals themselves are printed using Word Perfect on the PC), and I do the ad layouts for advertising the machines that use the software using PageStream and UltraScript. I have yet to see a DTP program that is as good as PageStream for Ad layouts, but then I have been using PageStream since it was Publishing Partner and am probably biased. I also use Microsoft C on the PC and much prefer Laser C on my ST, and also use Microsoft QuickBasic and sort of prefer GFA Basic on my ST...

From JB. Davis (Dream Park), Category 4, Topic 55, Message 160 on the ST Roundtable on Genie...

I have been contacted by my supplier concerning the Syquest 88, but the news for ST owners is *NOT* good...

According to my supplier, a limited number of OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturers) will be recruited to sell the 88 under strict controls. They will be able to sell these units *ONLY* for IBMs. OEMs will be required to sign a statement attesting to this fact and Syquest has reportedly recruited a 'Cartridge Police' group to insure that this is enforced. As a result, we will not have access to the 88 in the near future. I am assuming that this means Syquest has reached some type of agreement with an Apple OEM for sole sourcing 88s for the Mac.

I teel ya, I don't know what the world is coming to...

Brad@DreamPark

Comments about defragmenting your hard drive from Wayne Dunham on Delphi...

...there is no reason to backup and restore your hard drive just because it has become fragmented. You can defrag the drive with a couple different programs I've used and still use.

I highly recommend HD Sentry from Beckemeyer. I've never had any problem with it messing up a drive. I've also used Tune-up! from Michtron. I never upgraded to the version that came in the Michtron Toolkit, but that old version could munge a partition if there was less than 30% of the partition free and the drive is very fragmented. I don't know if the newer version exhibits the same problem or not. I did have problems with it several times messing up my partitions.

I found the optimization routines in Tune-Up more flexible. In Tune-

up you can optimize a partition for mostly read, or mostly write and it works quite well. HD Sentry doesn't offer that flexibility but still does an excellent job of de-fragging the drive.

If you don't want to purchase a defragging program then all you have to do is back up the partitions, then zero the partitions with your HD utilities and then restore the drive. The drive is now all defragmented. (of course that's assuming you use a file backup and not an image backup program)

No matter which way you go you should ALWAYS backup the partitions BEFORE you defrag just in case something does go wrong and you do have to reformat, or zero a partition.

From Julius (ISD), Category 16, Topic 3, Message 68 on the ST Roundtable on Genie...

Here are the results of some rough benchmarking that I did today. Basically, the land survey drawing (available in the libraries) was loaded into DynaCADD on the respective platform and the time to repaint the whole thing was measured. Error is +/- .5 seconds. The results are interesting...

80386 20 Mhz no FPU	- 16 bit VGA 16 colors	- 19s
80286 12 Mhz w/FPU	- 8 bit VGA 16 colors	- 13s
A2500 14 Mhz 68020/68881	- 672x448 - 4 colors	- 6s
	8 colors	- 6s
	16 colors	- 10s
	640x400 - 4 colors	- 5s
	8 colors	- 6s
	16 colors	- 8s
TT/030 32 Mhz 68030/68882	- 1280x960 - monochrome	- 3s
	640x480 - 16 colors	- 3s
	640x400 - monochrome	- 3s
MegaST T16 & 68881	- 1280x960 - monochrome	- 8s
	640x400 - monochrome	- 7s
A3000 25 Mhz 68030/68882	- 688x440 - 4 colors	- 3s
	8 colors	- 3s
	16 colors	- 5s

Question about hard drive problems from Philip W. Payzant on CIS...

My Atari Mega 30 hard drive was giving me intermittent errors, so I backed up, reformatted and partitioned it into three 10 Mb logical drives. The Markbad program that runs as part of the format program reported 28 bad sectors. Out of curiosity, I ran Markbad again. Drives D and E were clean, but C apparently had 8 bad sectors. I ran it twice more, and got 1 and 41 bad sectors respectively. Additional runs produced more bad sectors, but never zero...My question is: are these bad sectors new ones found since the last Markbad run, or is it the total of all bad sectors on the drive? If the former, shouldn't

it eventually report zero bad sectors? If the latter, why do the numbers vary so wildly?

Answer from Jeff (InterSect Software) on CIS...

...the markbad program will only find NEW errors. If you are finding new bad sectors within a few minutes of each test I would suspect a flakey drive or a problem with your ST's DMA port...If the problem shows up on C: and not D: or E: I think I would suspect the DMA port. The C: drive has a faster transfer rate than the D: or E: drive.

RLL drives compress data on the individual tracks 1.5 times that of a MFM drive. This means that the data transfer rate of the RLL drive is 1.5 times that of the MFM drive, if there are any problems with the DMA port, it will show up on faster drives-partitions...Best way to check this is to try the Megafire 30 on a friends computer reformat and markbad.

Until next week.....

> STR Portfolio News & Information
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Keeping up to date...

THE ATARI PORTFOLIO FORUM
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On CompuServe

by Walter Daniel 75066,164

BJ Gleason is working on a calculator program for the Portfolio. If you would like to offer suggestions to him, reply to message #10988.

Another Portfolio-versus-Wizard debate raged through the forum this week. There were two major points made in the thread: capability and price. The Wizard is a dedicated organizer and its software and hardware have been optimized for that purpose. While the Portfolio organizing software isn't as slick as that of the Wizard, the Portfolio can run many other programs such as text processors, BASIC interpreters, and so on. The high-end Wizards cost as much as \$370 or so; the street price of Portfolios is as low as \$225.

Read message 10967 for an announcement of a change in the policy for the libraries. New files should be uploaded to Library 1 (New Uploads). Files will remain in Library 1 for 2-3 weeks, then be moved to the appropriate library for permanent storage.

Dave Stewart uploaded a program (see TEAM.ZIP) that displays the names of the Portfolio design team that are stored in ROM locations \$F000:4FB2 through \$F000:5141. Bruce Coleman of Atari then pointed out that you can access these names using a hidden feature. In one of the built-in applications except Setup or Menu, press F1 (or the Atari key) to call the main menu, then press "H" to select help. Depending upon the application, you may need to press another key to select which help screen to display. With some help text on the screen, type ALT-left bracket to get the "Help on: Design Team" text. You can then use the down-cursor key to read all the names.

Chris Burns uploaded several programs that allow a Portfolio to control a Tandy PDD2 portable disk drive. The files have to be compiled with PowerBASIC, so most people cannot use them until the product hits the stores. Several of the files are small utilities that accomplish single functions such as renaming a file, copying from the PDD2, copying to the PDD2, deleting a file, reading the disk directory, or formatting a disk. Read PDD2.DOC for documentation of these utilities. Chris also prepared a PDD2 file manager (TM.BAS) that is documented by TM.DOC.

A Portfolio user of a photographic bent uploaded two files of interest to camera users. PHOTO.BAS is a PBASIC program that performs some exposure calculations such as f-stop given other information. FILMS.ADR is an Address Book file that documents exposure, filter, and reciprocity data for 20 different films.

LOANS.BAS is a PBASIC 4.1 program that will calculate monthly payment and total interest for both mortgages and simple loans. The mortgage calculator includes estimates for taxes and insurance so that the payment includes principal, interest, taxes, and insurance (PITI in real estate parlance).

> CEPS-1991 STR Spotlight "...A new era of prosperity for ATARI"
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CEPS April 8-April 11, 1991
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THE MIDWEST FORUM FOR DESKTOP, MULTIMEDIA & VISUAL COMMUNICATION

by Andrew Learner

An interesting metamorphosis occurred this past weekend. I saw an aging, "game machine" company rejuvenated, with exciting new products, both hardware software, and "PEOPLE".

I met Greg Pratt - President of ATARI US, Mel Stevens - Show Coordinator, Diana Goralczk - Customer Relations, Adam Rabbino - Sales and Marketing and the brains behind the new TT030 development group, Bill Rehbock.

Bob Brodie rounded out the group, as always helpful, "Enthusiast" coordinator, organizing local folk from: LCACE - Mike Brown, Steve Kostelnik and J.J. Johnson, CRAG - Randy Noak, RACC - Andy Learner to help set up and run local errands.

Through some interesting and innovative engineering, and a great deal of painstaking organization, the Professional Products Group from ATARI, was unveiled at the CEPS (Corporate Electronic Publishing Show) at McCormick Place in Chicago. This is a show where all the major players in the Desk Top Publishing world come out to show their hardware platforms, software, printers, even paper stock for laser printers. A new era of prosperity for ATARI, seems to be on the near horizon.

With paternal like patience, ATARI guru, Bill Rehbock, has assembled a team of developers who quietly worked on new exciting software for the TT030 computer platform. We have all heard about the TT for some time now. But I think after showing it's Mega system over 3 years ago at this same show, ATARI people realized that the competition was well slightly ahead of them in machine speed, and software development.

We have seen the maturing of such powerful DESK TOP PUBLISHING programs as WORDFLAIR, CALAMUS, and PAGESTREAM on the old ST platform, with outstanding DTP results. But this new platform is a powerhouse of a computer. It rivals the top of the line machines of all other personal computer companies, in performance, speed and as we have grown to expect from ATARI.

Of course many you will cringe at the \$3000+ price tag of the TT030-8/80meg machine. But, that is inexpensive compared to the \$10,000+ cost of the MAC IIFx or the NEXT workstation. You will also be surprised at the price tags of the new Calamus SL Color Pro, Pagestream 2.0, and the new Goldleaf Photo retouching program Retouche Professional CD (\$1995.95). But these are all new products, with powerful never before seen features, on any platform.

Quoting one of the CALAMUS programmers from Germany, who was at the show, when asked what he thought of the TT030, Klaus Garms said,

"This is an exciting powerful, machine. It's approach is unique, and in many ways, superior to it's closest competitors, the MS-DOS based 486, and the MAC IIFx. It has a few problems, which I am sure ATARI will iron out, before the machine goes into full distribution."

ATARI had the booth directly next to the LINOTYPE-HELL (commercial high end printing printers, capable of up to 2450 DPI), and Xerox. Xerox has a time tested program called Ventura Publisher, which runs on PC's. They also had a booth that stretched the entire width of the show.

I was privy to the debut of this exciting new product line, by a means many of you luckier loyal ATARIANS have experienced, that is the set-up of an ATARI booth for some type of a show. It was an eye opening experience,

to say the least. Those of you familiar with desk top publishing, and ATARI products will know the names I will refer to in this article. But believe me, you would barely recognize the changes in their products.

The most aggressive developer and entrepreneur of the ATARI group, has to be Lauren Flanagan-Sellers, President of Goldleaf Publishing, Lakespur, California. She has assembled an international team of some of the most brilliant programmers and technicians I have met, and came up with one of the most outstanding publishing solutions, I have seen on any platform.

GOLDLEAF is marketing what they call a "speeder box", which "talks" to LINOTRONIC printers (typesetters) in their "native" language. This innovation, reduces the through put time from the print command, to a completed printed piece of film. If you are familiar with POSTSCRIPT, you know that is the most universal printer language in the DTP market. However, typesetters such as Agfa Compugraphics, or LINOTYPE-HELL, have to interpret Postscript. This slows down the printing process.

They also have RETOUCHE - a PRO version of a photo-scanning, and retouching program - DIDOT a professional line art creation program - Sherlook - a series of optical character recognition programs, and to assemble all of these elements into documents, WORDFLAIR II (a remarkable bargain at \$149.95)!

I think many people came by just to take a peek at ATARI and while there I watched many a raised eyebrow of the seasoned MAC and MS-DOS professional publishers, as they poured over the offerings in the ATARI booth.

You must understand one thing about this computer market, if you are unfamiliar with DTP. Printing and publishing in general, is a multi-billion dollar a year business, which is worldwide. Desk Top Publishers are seriously cutting into what has traditionally been a very tough place to carve a niche. Printing companies (dare I say) loathe the DTP'er, because he is taking away a lot of their business.

DTP people can now produce what large printing companies used to spend billions of dollars to purchase from a printer. One of the last vestiges of American ingenuity, and dominance of a marketplace, is the computer industry. Desk Top Publishing is one of the major areas we are also still dominant.

From transistor radios to luxury automobiles, stereo, VCR, and most assuredly, the photographic market the Japanese and Germans have taken a lions share of worldwide industrial production, copied and vastly improved every type of technology we have ever developed. I'm sure tecno-programmers in both countries, are working feverishly, to try and close the gap, but it seems that most of the high level computer developments still come from the good ole USA.

Industrially and commercially Macintosh has pioneered the way for the computer industry into the extremely competitive world of printing and publishing. The printing industry, is evolving rapidly, with the introduction of personal computers and the workstation environment taking over jobs that traditionally have been done manually, such as photo retouching, typesetting, and basic layout not to mention drawing and design. Enough history already, on to the meat and potatoes.

I have heard a few loyal ATARI users express serious doubts as to the future of this company. Frankly I think with few changes/improvements,

ATARI has a winning product on it's hands. The booth had the familiar display exhibits, used at other Atari shows with ten stations. Some computers were shown "operating" high end (2450 Dots per inch film recorders) typesetters. Although I never saw the finished output. I know it can be done, because I do it with a 1040ST, through a service bureau.

One problem I noticed immediately, was an overall haze, to all the video reproduction on ATARI B&W and new color TT monitors. Outstanding color and B&W graphic representation showed up on NEC multisync monitors, which were running from the new VME port.

I don't know what caused the flatness or lack of screen brilliance (it wasn't exactly lack of sharpness), but other platforms using the Supermac, or other brands of large screen monitors, did not seem to have this problem. After all, they were all there to compare each other to. I hope this is corrected quickly, because I overheard more than one person notice it. The other is the lack of a high density drive. All the competition has it in their machines. TT030 should have it also.

One obvious absence, is the often mentioned but rarely seen, ATARI CD-ROM drive. Again all the competition showed 600meg CD-ROM Drives, and Magneto-Optical drives. I hope the TT, will be able to use these types of drives. After being in the DTP and graphics world, an 80Meg drive looks fairly puny next to a CD- ROM.

Maybe with ATARI's cooperation and this new grouping of developers, we will see a whole group of these programs come out on a single CD-ROM disk. Come on ATARI, let's do it. The users are rooting for you to succeed. Let us see abandoned machines with the users heading for other platforms happen no more! And continue on with a new slogan;

"ATARI - Professional Power - The Economical Alternative!"

Editor Note:

Andy Learner is the President of Rockford Atari Computer Club. He has been an avid ATARI user since 1983. His twenty five years as a Professional Photographer, Exhibit Display Producer, and Publisher, make him uniquely qualified to bring us this fine report.

> CEPS 1991 STR Spotlight
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ATARI'S BOLD NEW APPROACH

PROFESSIONAL SYSTEMS GROUP
LAUNCHES
DIRECT TO PRESS PUBLISHING SOLUTIONS

"Direct to Press", a complete and comprehensive array of pre-press publishing solutions was introduced at the Corporate Electronic Publishing Systems (CEPS) trade show in Chicago, Illinois. Direct to press includes full-featured, high quality and high performance tools for every phase of pre-press work from document processing and design to photo retouching and imagesetter film output. Tools offered as part of these publishing solutions produce film that is ready to go directly to press, including photographic images with up to 256 levels of greyscale.

Direct To Press is a collection of hardware and software tools from a select group of manufacturers assembled and led by the Professional Systems Group, a division of Atari Computer. Design and imagesetting workstations take advantage of the sophisticated graphics and pure processing power of the Atari TT030, the company's high performance computing platform.

Available as custom-configurable systems, Direct To Press is targeted at pre-press and printing service bureaus and in-house design and production departments, as well as freelance designers, artists and publishers. Systems based on the Direct To Press platform and concept will be distributed through a network of value-added resellers and dealers.

PUBLISHING SYSTEM HARDWARE PLATFORM

The Atari TT030 provides an ideal computing platform for the Direct To Press publishing tools. It features a 32mhz Motorola 68030 microprocessor with on-chip cache and memory management as well as a 68882 math co-processor, 8mb of RAM, an 80mb hard drive and a wide range of video and storage expansion options. Output for proofing purposes is provided by the 300 dpi Atari SLM605 laser printer. The SLM605 features a small footprint, high quality output and a fast 6 page per minute operation.

"We founded the Professional Systems Group to provide the computing platforms that will support sophisticated application for demanding vertical market segments," said Greg Pratt, President of Professional Systems Group. "We're thrilled with the level of performance and output quality embodied in the third party products that are part of our Direct To Press for digital typography and image processing."

The Direct To Press solutions generally follow one of three complimentary approaches:

SoftLogik's PostScript based PageStream 2 provides direct compatibility with that Industry Standard. The Calamus SL and tms Cranach Studio family of high end publishing applications, including proprietary SoftRips for specific models of typesetters and imagesetters deliver a wide range of features and fast performance. And the Retouche/Didot family of digital lithography, line art and page layout tools uses proprietary software technology to create raster images of pages within the host software, eliminating the need for a RIP, and uses specialized hardware to greatly enhance output speed and quality. Files can be easily exchanged among tools, and with many other, industry standard, desktop publishing programs.

POSTSCRIPT COMPATIBILITY

Softlogik's PageStream 2 is a fast, powerful and easily accessible general purpose page layout program that can import line art, scanned or retouched images, or composed pages from other tools and offers full PostScript compatibility.

CALAMUS SoftRIPs

Highly acclaimed Calamus SL from ISD Marketing uses a unique modular approach to page layout feature integration. Modules for image management, graphic design, text processing, illustration and autotracing can be selectively loaded as needed to yield true WYSIWYG, fast printing speeds and extensive color support. Calamus Outline Art is a complete vector graphics editor for lines, Bezier curves, control paths and other vector shapes. ISD Marketing tms Cranach Studio is an electronic image manipulation program that uses professional level bit mapping for enhancing, retouching, making color corrections and making composites on greyscale and 24 bit color images.

ISD Marketing also offers the Calamus Imagesetter SoftRIPs software interfaces enable the Atari TT030 to be directly connected (via the DMA port) to high resolution imagesetters such as those from Hell systems, all AGFA Compugraphic 9000 series and the Linotype L100, L300 and L500.

"We're very pleased to offer our sophisticated publishing tools as part of the Direct to Press solution," said Nathan Potechin, president of ISD Marketing.

IMAGE SPEEDER

The 3K Image Speeder, (available from Goldleaf Publishing) is an Atari TT030 computer configured in a tower case to accommodate a larger power supply and the additional add-on cards and disk storage peripherals required. It includes a dedicated graphics display board with hardware based pan and zoom, a high speed scanner interface and a direct link to the Hell imagesetter through the VMEbus. The 3K Image Speeder currently supports ReTouche Professional, Didot Line Art, and Didot Professional; support for the Calamus and Cranach family of publishing tools is under development.

Retouche Professional is a modular system of professional digital lithography tools for creating, retouching and reproducing halftone pictures. Retouche Professional's most distinguishing features are the quality and speed of its output that results from a library of hand-tuned screens that are optimized for a variety of film output devices and printers.

Retouch CD adds the dimension of color to Retouch Professional's digital halftone image processing capabilities, including color parameters and facilities for selecting, correcting and separating colors.

Didot Line Art is a full featured line art creation and manipulation program that benefits from the same rasterizing output technology as Retouche Professional. Didot Professional is a full featured, object oriented page layout program with full color screen representation and color separation support. It is a superset of Ditdot Line Art and can

manipulate block text halftone and color picture of any size, as well as bit images and vector graphics.

Sherlook Professional is a high speed, highly accurate program for optical character recognition that can process up to 12,000 characters per minute.

To create short, presentation quality, compound documents - Wordflair II is a single program that combines word processing, calculations, graphics, page layout, and a simple database on a screen representation of a printed page. Wordflair II's integration enables the user to easily manipulate text, data and graphics without cutting and pasting from separate applications.

For high quality presentation graphics, SCIGRAPH is a high performance full-featured vector drawing program that can display and manipulate up to 256 onscreen colors or greyscale levels and create a wide variety of chart and graph types that can easily be imported into desktop publishing documents.

"The Direct To Press solutions provide the best output quality at the best value," said Lauren Flanagan-Sellers, president of Goldleaf Publishing. "The nice thing about the Direct To Press solutions is that although some parts are new to the US Market, publishing systems based on the same elements have been very well accepted in Germany, widely known as one of the most demanding printing markets in the world.

The Hell Systems Ultre*Setter UX-70 flatbed imagesetter generates press ready output on infrared sensitive RC paper or film. Utilizing a laser diode, pentaprism imaging system, the Ultre*Setter produces output resolutions ranging from 300-3000 dpi.

Professional Systems Group is a new division of Atari Computer whose mission is to provide superior computing solutions for vertical market segments where output quality and execution speed are of the highest concerns. Professional Systems Group combines its computing platforms with high performance software and peripherals to meet and exceed the needs of these demanding audiences.

> THE RIGHT WAY! STR FOCUS
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HOW TO ATTEND A PROFESSIONAL COMPUTER TRADE SHOW

- or -

How not to 'Tick Off' the ATARI you love!

by: Andy Learner - President RACC

I went to help, but I got in the way, and was politely asked to step aside. How could they do this to me? I have bought every computer they have made since the beginning, with the 8-BIT 400. I have an extremely loyal, albeit somewhat jaded attitude toward ATARI the company, but an undying fondness for the machine itself.

I know that seems awkward, but the machine is not subject to personality clashes. An though often misused, and abused, never (unless you ask it to) will talk back or reject you as some people can and inevitably do. I'm not saying that I felt terrific about the following I am about to relate. I do see it as amusing, after getting over the hurt.

The Thursday before the CEPS show, I get a call from my good pal, and Michael "Ellis" Brown. Did I want to go help set-up the ATARI booth at McCormick place in Chicago? "Why, absolutely!" I replied, as I had been pursuing Bob Brodie for some time, to do just that. A call to ATARI show coordinator Mel Stevens, then a return call from him reassured me that they wanted me to help.

We met Mel on Saturday, and dove right in, helping setup all the shiny new TT030-8 computers, SLM605 Laser Printers, TTC1245 Color Multisync Monitors, and TTM195 19" B&W monitors. The purpose of this article is two-fold,

- (1) to show where an over zealous hobbyist, can really hurt the cause, rather than help it.
- (2) Apologize to any one I may have offended by offering over enthusiasm, as an explanation, not an excuse.

We were all very excited (JJ Johnson, Mike Brown, and myself) to finally get to see the real TT030. Even more ecstatic to get to actually handle one. As these were truly fresh new machines there was no software on them, to "try" out. I figured there would be something, but the software people were to arrive the next day. I thought I should have brought something to "boot up" and check out the new "toy".

It took a phone call from my friend Bob Brodie on Monday afternoon, to clue me into the fact that this new machine in fact was no toy, and any attempt to make that association, would be poorly received by it's developers and programmers. Also that there would be plenty of time to check out the new machine at the LCACE meeting, this coming Saturday.

I have been in the Exhibit and Display business for over 10 years. And I know the rules, when it comes to McCormick Place. You may not even plug a standard electrical plug into the main line, without the attendance of the electrician. This seems like a silly thing, until you realize the delicate balance of power required to power up all the lighting, and computers at an event like this. Everyone takes everything very seriously.

I should have known, just by the fact that ATARI was right next to the largest booth of the show (XEROX - Ventura Publisher), that they were there, to do some serious business. But I didn't. After all the setup was completed, there wasn't much for me to do on the second day. I brought along a few of my favorite programs, including CALAMUS, PAGESTREAM,

and SPECTRE GCR as well as a few (ahem!!)games.

I thought as I didn't have all too much to do, I would put TT through its paces. "Let's just see what this puppy could do!" To shorten a long painful story, this turned out to be truly inappropriate behavior, at a show of this magnitude. After all, this was TT030's debut to the rest of the Corporate Publishing World. As ATARIANS, we have known about this terrific machine for some time now. But, very few people outside the ATARI world, did up until then. Thanks to this show many do now.

It just wouldn't do to have HACMAN running on the TT, and fortunately (in a way) it didn't. I couldn't even get most of what I brought along to copy correctly to the hard drive. I should have known right then and there, something was wrong with the machine, and stop, but I kept trying to make something, anything run. Not that the machine couldn't run the programs, there was just something wrong with that particular machine.

Then I tried the GCR on it. The screen went purple and white, and quit. "Uh-oh, now I've done it!" I killed a TT right out of the box. Bill Rehbock assured me GCR would work, but inside I screamed at myself, "please don't try anything else like that." I was really embarrassed, even a little indignant, at the thought that something I did, goofed up such a fine machine. I told him so after he told me that he didn't need my help for the rest of the show.

I make this open apology directly to you Bill. "You were under a great deal of pressure to make this show a success. I think you made it happen. I am sorry if I caused you even one moments grief, and wish I could take it back."

Before the story of ATARI at CEPS unfolded before my eyes, the "Professional Products Group" as I now know it, was kept under a tight veil of secrecy. One of the reasons, was to solidify all the relationships, formed in this unique arrangement between ATARI and developers.

Some suggestions to user group people who may be fortunate enough to be "invited" to participate in an ATARI event:

- (1) Don't just participate solely with the idea that there will be something in it for you.
- (2) Don't put "official" people on the spot with unreal or awkward demands for ATARI user group support. There is a time and place, and direct method for doing that. A trade show is NOT one of them. These people are here to make a living, not support our hobby.
- (3) Unless specifically asked to do so, do not tamper with computer equipment, especially new stuff you are unfamiliar with. What will work beautifully on one machine, may be the death of another.

Some suggestions for ATARI Corporation, on the use of user group people as "volunteers" to work a trade show.

- (1) Have in mind that if you bring in uniformed, enthusiastic people, they need to know a little of what to expect. Without some specific guidance they will inevitably do just what you don't want them to do.
- (2) Develop some sort of organization for the volunteers to follow, with a little more specific guidelines.

- (3) It will certainly help to reward those who "volunteer" to "work". If your intention would be to reward them, make it clear what that might be. The professional workers who set up trade show (and are paid real money) find it unusual and awkward to work alongside "volunteers" working for "free".
- (4) Most of the "professional" riggers at a Trade show, are carpenters, or ironworkers, who don't know an RS232 plug from a banana plug. Intelligent "volunteer" riggers will be your best bet to "hire", if you don't keep them in the dark.
- (5) Make sure your everyone (including your CEO) knows just what everyone is supposed to do. I bet none of you really like awkward surprises either.

> PAGESTREAM 2 STR Spotlight "Perfect Solution for Pro and Hobbyist"
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PAGESTREAM 2 -> HOT!
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by Ralph F. Mariano

The Atari STe/TT computers are poised to revolutionize the computer industry and in particular, the Graphics/DTP arena. Blockbuster, innovative products like Pagestream 2 are indeed making the entire computing community stand up and take notice. They are being shown what many of the current Atari owners have known for a long, long time ie; "Atari is a very serious contender in the DTP area and in fact in most cases far superior to its closest competition." Pagestream is an excellent companion to the Atari DTP solution as it perfectly compliments the power, versatilty and value the Atari computers represent.

PageStream 2 has full color support, built-in spell checker/dictionary, hyphenation dictionary and an extremely large family of fonts are available, including Adobe type 1, afga Compugraphic Intellifont and PageStream format fonts. Pagestream 2 displays font outlines on your screen for a WYSIWYG look and then prints that outline at the maximum of any printer. This includes printing Adobe Type ! PostScript fonts to dot matrix printers (ie, Adobe Type Manager, ATM). PageStream 2 ships with (18) outline fonts ten (10) of which are Compugraphic hinted outlines. The fonts included are CS Times, Times Bold, Italic, Bold Italic - Garamond Antigua, Halbfett, Kursiv, Halbfett Kursiv - CS Triumvirate, Triumvirate Bold - Columbia - University Roman - Letter Gothic - Saturn - Tom Hudson - Creative - Oriental - Artistic.

Pagestream is a real leader in graphics importing, text importing and in providing a super selection of printers supported. Soft-Logik supports almost all graphics formats, text formats and printing devices for use with Pagestream. Pagestream allows the importation of these graphics formats:

Degas	Neochrome	Tiny	GEM Metafile
IMG	IFF	ILBM	TIFF
GIF	Pro-Draw	EPS	EPSF
Aegis	DR2D	MacPaint	IBM

Of course, there are more this is jsut to give you an idea of the versatilty. Importing a wide variety of graphics allows the user, Professional or Hobbyist, flexibility and power in total graphical selection and implementation. After all, isn't powerful graphical control the driving force behind computer DeskTop Publishing?

Pagestream allows the creation of documents of any page size up to 1200 feet by 1200 feet, the transference of objects off the page into a user definable workspace, use font point sizes from .01 to 183,000 with variable horizontal and verticle point size. The user may also draw and edit Bezier curves, import all graphics, have well over 1000 pages per document, page number automatically, use unlimited number of columns per page with text routing between columns in any order, import and color separate 24 bit pictures, use Pantone colors, edit Professional Draw clips, rotate - slant - twist any text, texty column or graphic. This list goes on and on...

The intuitive interface of Pagestream allows anyone (even neophytes) to create and produce outstanding documents. Pagestream 2 is a program that's loaded with features. The extremely friendly user interface makes it powerful.

PAGESTREAM 2

For a brochure and more info check with your local dealer

OR.....

Contact:

Soft-Logik Corp.
P.O. Box 290070
St. Louis, MO. 63129

1-314-894-8608

> GFA in the USA! STR InfoFile
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GFA OPENS USA SUBSIDIARY

Hannover, Germany. GFA Systemtechnik GmbH, headquartered in Dusseldorf had very positive responses to its key announcements at CeBIT'91 this past week.

First, the company announced the availability of GFA-BASIC for IBM compatible PC's. For the first time, programmers will be able to use the language's simple constructs to create applications that use Menu Bars, Windows, Alert Boxes, and Pop-up Menus under both the MSDOS and WINDOWS 3.0 operating systems from Microsoft. All GFA-BASIC programs written for Atari ST and Amiga are compatible to these new versions.

The company also demonstrated for the first time the Atari TT version of GFA-Basic. This new version brings to the TT compatibility with all software that has been written for the ST. GFA-BASIC is now compatible to all Atari, amiga as well as IBM compatible programs.

And finally, the company announced the establishment of its U.S. subsidiary, GFA Software Technologies Inc. to support and market its products in North America. demonstration versions of these products are available for evaluation.

GFA SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGIES, INC. - NEW RELEASE
GFA OPENS US SUBSIDIARY TO SUPPORT AND SELL GFA-BASIC!

Salem, Ma. GFA Systemtechnik of Dusseldorf, Germany, publishers of GFA-BASIC for the ATARI ST and commodore Amiga announces the formation of GFA Software Technologies, Inc. a wholly owned subsidiary, to support and market GFA-BASIC in North America.

Maurice Giguere, the President of this new subsidiary, announced that his goals were to "expand the use of this powerful language by providing call-in as well as bulletin board access to GFA technical personnel to assist programmers in their development efforts."

The company currently publishes GFA-BASIC version 3.5 for the Atari ST and Amiga Computers. The current list price of the Interpreter and Compiler are \$94.95 and \$54.95 respectively.

Also, GFA has recently released GFA-BASIC for MSDOS and Windows 3.0 which will allow ST and Amiga programs written in GFA-BASIC to run also on these platforms. The list Prices start at \$249 for the MSDOS 286 version and range to \$495 for the 386 Windows 3.0 version.

GFA is committed to helping its customers gain efficiencies and extend the value of their investment in ATARI ST and AMIGA programs that are written in GFA-BASIC.

GFA SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
GFA-BASIC now available for the Atari TT!

Salem, Ma. GFA Software Technologies, Inc. today announced the availability of GFA-BASIC on the Atari TT. The typical Atari user was very happy to see the number one BASIC for the Atari on this new generation of Atari computers. Frank Ostrowski, chief technologist for GFA said "this implementation will exhibit all the speed and functionality we have appreciated on the other Atari platforms."

The product is shipping with both an Interpreter and Compiler. The

List Prices of each are \$94.95 and \$54.95 respectively.

GFA SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGIES, INC. - NEWS RELEASE
New GFA-BASIC gives MSDOS programmers a powerful tool to develop
GUI applications

Salem, Ma. GFA Software Technologies, Inc. has announced the availability of GFA-BASIC for MSDOS. In addition to about 500 independent commands, the language has over 70 commands and functions for specific graphic and operating system operations which are SAA compatible. The graphic commands in particular make it possible to write MSDOS programs with a "Graphic User Interface" which include Menu Bars, Windows, Alert Boxes, and Pop-up Menus. These Simple commands replace pages of complex coding that would normally be required in any other programming language. The resulting MSDOS applications are then portable to Windows 3.0, OS/2, and UNIX when operated with the corresponding GFA-BASIC for these platforms.

GFA-BASIC supports all graphic modes--MDA, HGC, CGA, EGA, and VGA. It also permits the use of EMS which allows the programs to have access to memory beyond 640 KB. In addition, GFA-BASIC makes use of the 8087/287/387 math co-processors if available.

The List Price for the 8086/88/286 version is \$249. The 386 version retails for \$295. The GFA-BASIC Interpreter, Editor, and protected-mode Runner are being shipped immediately; the compiler will be shipped to all registered users when completed in the fall.

GFA SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGIES, INC. - NEWS RELEASE
New GFA-BASIC for WINDOWS 3.0
Develop GUI applications without the SDK!

Salem, Ma. GFA Software Technologies, Inc. has announced the availability of GFA-BASIC for Windows 3.0. In addition to about 500 independent commands, this version has over 400 other commands and functions specifically for Windows operations. These simple commands let the programmer use the Multiple Document Interface, load Bit-Map files, utilize the Clipboard, DDE, as well as run Dynamic Link Libraries. These commands dramatically reduce the coding that would be required in "C" and totally eliminate the need for the SDK.

GFA-BASIC permits the use of EMS which allows the programs to have access to memory beyond 640 KB. GFA-BASIC will run in Real or Protected Mode depending on the installation of Windows 3.0.

GFA-BASIC combines the intuitive syntax of BASIC with the structured programming of Pascal and C while possessing a speed of execution similar to an Assembler or compiled C programs. Routines written in C or Assembler can be bound into GFA-BASIC programs as well.

The List Price for the 286 version is \$449. The 386 version is \$495. The GFA-BASIC Interpreter, Editor, and protected-mode Runner is being shipped immediately; the compiler will be shipped to all registered users when completed in the fall.

GFA SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

GFA Software Technologies, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of GFA systemtechnik of Dusseldorf, Germany. GFA Systemtechnik has been supplying high technology tools and solutions to companies like Mercedes Benz and BMW through its affiliates around the world. Based on his experience with computer language editors and compilers, Frank Ostrowski, the chief technologist for GFA saw an opportunity to develop a powerful higher level language that would provide portability across the most popular PC platforms.

One year ago Mr. Ostrowski began development of this product which would provide the basis for allowing programmers to easily create applications which not only could run on many computers, but also would conform to the "Graphic User Interface" which most users would be demanding on PC's as they had on the Atari line of computers.

The corporate goal was then apparent: give a simple, well-known language powerful commands to accomplish this task and bring to the PC the user friendliness of the applications that were possible on Atari. Mr. Ostrowski as the original developer of GFA-BASIC for the Atari had now created a tool which not only provides the power programmers need for this task, but also the variety of platforms needed whereby these applications can run effectively.

GFA Systemtechnik in Germany has an attractive and aggressive group of bright young developers dedicated to bringing to the applications programmer tools which he can use to maximize the market size for the systems he develops. GFA Software Technologies, Inc. is the U.S. subsidiary responsible for supporting these products.

For more information contact:

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